

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 1069  
By Yokley

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of Edward Ward Hughes of  
Newport.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly were greatly saddened to learn of  
the passing of Edward Ward Hughes; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Hughes was an exemplary public servant and consummate professional  
who worked assiduously to improve the quality of life for his fellow citizens in numerous  
capacities; and

WHEREAS, born on November 10, 1912, in the St. Tide Community of Cocke County,  
he was the second of three children of Charles Franklin and Idella Mae Harmon Hughes; and

WHEREAS, he attended Unity School and graduated from Cocke County High School  
as Valedictorian of the Class of 1932 and was the first person ever to complete eighteen credits;  
and

WHEREAS, this brilliant man then attended East Tennessee State College, Carson-  
Newman College, and the University of Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, knowing the immense value of education, he made the admirable decision  
to share his time and talents with young people by teaching for twelve years in Cocke County  
Schools, including Unity, Edgemont, West End, Green Meadow, Rankin, and Cave Hill; he also  
served with acumen and alacrity as Attendance Teacher for five years under Superintendent  
Lagretta Parrott; and

WHEREAS, in 1953, he was appointed Cocke County General Sessions Judge by the  
Tennessee Legislature, and he later worked as a Cost Accountant for Stokely-Van Camp for  
eighteen years before taking a well deserved retirement in 1976; and

WHEREAS, an active and invaluable member of his community, he served as a member  
of the Cocke County Court for two terms, including four years as Chairman Pro Tem, and as  
Secretary of the Cocke County Road Commission in the late 1940s; and

WHEREAS, in all of his professional and civic endeavors, Edward Ward Hughes displayed unusual diligence, dedication, integrity, and professionalism and earned tremendous respect among those who served with him; and

WHEREAS, a devout Christian, he was a member of the Baptist faith; and

WHEREAS, his professional accomplishments aside, he was deeply devoted to his family and always endeavored to remain true to family values of the highest order; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Hughes enjoyed the loving companionship of Dorothy Geraldine Pitt Hughes for more than sixty-three years after joining her in holy matrimony on December 2, 1939; and

WHEREAS, he will be missed dearly by his wife; daughter and son-in-law, Martha and Lynn Murray; son and daughter-in-law, Charles Douglas and Vicki Hughes; son, Grady Edwards; son and daughter-in-law, Gordon Dale and Vicki Hughes; grandchildren, Leanne Murray, Isabella Hughes, and Anabella Hughes; step-grandchildren, Jennifer and Kevin Smelcer; and nieces and nephews, including special niece Kathy Ogle and special nephew Hal Keifer and wife Lorene; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Hughes leaves behind an indelible legacy of integrity and probity in public life, compassion and loyalty in private life, and diligence and dedication in all his chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that this General Assembly should pause to remember the bountiful life of this exceptional public servant and human being; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRD GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we honor the memory of Edward Ward Hughes, reflecting fondly upon his impeccable character, his many positive contributions to Cocke County, and his stalwart commitment to living the examined life with courage and conviction.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we express our sympathy and offer our condolences to the family of Mr. Hughes.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.